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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

NORTH KOREA TO ENFORCE COMPULSORY EDUCATION;
STUDENTS DENOUNCE COMMUNIST TEACHINGS

COMPULSORY EDUCATION FOR AGES 7-15 -- Wen-hui Pao, 28 Jan 50

P'yongyang, 27 January (Hsin-hua-she) -- The cabinet meeting of the People's Republic, held 11 January, formulated concrete plans for establishment of compulsory education. It is to be enforced throughout the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with the constitution of the People's Republic and the ordinances set forth in September 1949 by the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Compulsory education will start from 1 September 1950. On that date all children, age 7 to 15, residing in the northern half of the People's Republic are required to enroll in people's schools to receive primary education. All parents and guardians of school-age children are required by law to have in their possession a certificate showing that the children under their guardianship are receiving, or have received, the compulsory education. Parents and guardians who do not obtain a certificate will be punished.

All pupils are entitled to free education. However, the children of outstanding Communists, members of the People's Army, Defense Corps, Peace-Preservation Corps, and of disabled workers will receive free text books and writing paper from the government. Also, children of families sending five or more to the people's schools simultaneously will get the same benefits.

A general survey of all school-age children in North Korea is now under way. According to the data announced previously by the Supreme People's Assembly, there were 1,320,000 children attending schools in North Korea as of 1 September 1949. This number represented 94 percent of the total number of school-age children in North Korea at that time. In P'yongyang, a 100-percent attendance record is usually maintained.

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STUDENTS STAGE ANTI-COMMUNIST DEMONSTRATION - Chosun Ilbo, 4 Feb 50

Recently, a group of North Korean students, including girl students, set fire to a P'yongyang police station in protest against the Communist education imposed by the puppet government.

A reliable report received recently from the North also informs us that in January about 300 secondary school students of both sexes staged a demonstration march on the streets of P'yongyang, denouncing Kim Il-sung puppet regime's Communistic education program. As they marched down the streets they shouted their demand for a true democratic education, particularly the teaching of true history of Korea, as well as freedom, food, and clothes. The demonstration developed into violence as they marched towards the Office of Internal Affairs, which they burned down. No further news of the incident has been reported.

STUDENTS HOLD ANTI-RED CONVENTION IN SEOUL -- Kyong Hyang Sinmun, 5 Feb 50

Students from North Korea studying in Seoul universities will open the Second Convention of North Korean Students for Acceleration of Unification of Korea, at the Seoul stadium on 25 February. There are 100,000 anti-Communist North Korean students now studying in South Korea.

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